Indian Institute of Tourism and Travel Management also has its Chapters at the following places:—

(i) Kerala Institute of Tourism and Travel Studies, Thiruvananthapuram (Kerala)

(ii) Institute of Tourism Management, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh)

(iii) Institute of Tourism and Travel Management, Delhi Chapter, Delhi

(iv) Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management, Calcutta (West Bengal)

(v) Assam Institute of Management, Guwahati (Assam)

(b) The Institutes have been set up to impart specialised training to students in Tourism related subjects to meet the growing needs of the Travel and Tourism Industry for trained man-power in the country.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration in the Central Sector.

(d) Does not arise.

Interministerial Committee on Tourisni

3979. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA': Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to constitute an Interministerial Committee for growth of tourism in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that an Export Promotion Council is being constituted for tourism; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and how the two are going to function?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) and (b) A Standing Committee of the Secretaries under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary has been constituted to sort out co-ordination problems and genrerate consensus amongst the Department with a view to facilitate the growth of tourism.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Promotion of Tourism

3980. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what concrete steps have been taken by Government to promote tourism in the country; and

(b) how can the existing tourist destinations be further improved and what means are being adopted to identify potential tourist spots in State like Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) The steps taken by the Union Govtmment for the promotion of tourism include improvement of infrastructural facilities and tourism product by providing fmancial assistance to State Governments, encouraging private investment, undertaking Promotion and Publicity and Human Resourced Development.

(b) Development of Tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism provides financial assistance to the state Governments/UT administrations for improving the facilities and attractions at various destinations on the basis of specific proposals received from them. The Ministry of Tourism also commissions surveys and studies and advise the State Governments. During 1997-98, based on the State's performance, the Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India sanctioned financial assistance to Punjab, Uttar